

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Guido HEIRBAUT, et al.  
Title: KNITTED FABRIC OF STEEL  
FIBRES WITH INCREASED  
NUMBER OF STITCHES  
Appl. No.: Unassigned  
Filing Date: 07/05/2001  
Examiner: Unassigned  
Art Unit: Unassigned

5/A  
C.7.  
2/1/02

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Box PATENT APPLICATION  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendment be entered into the application:

**In the Claims:**

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.121, please substitute for original claims 3-7 and 9-17 the following rewritten versions of the same claims, as amended. The changes are shown explicitly in the attached "Versions With Markings to Show Changes Made."

3. (Amended) A knitted fabric according to claim 1, having an air permeability higher than  $2400 \frac{1}{10} \text{cm}^2 \cdot \text{h}$ .
4. (Amended) A knitted fabric according to claim 1, having a weight between  $600 \text{ g/m}^2$  and  $2000 \text{ g/m}^2$ .
5. (Amended) A knitted fabric according to claim 1, having a thickness more than 0.8 mm.